



Department Awards and Recognition

Department Awards

- The City of Fairfax Police Department successfully completed the re-accreditation process with CALEA.

Officer of the Year

- MPO John Dever was selected the Officer of the Year for 2003. MPO Dever received a lookout for an armed robbery suspect and his vehicle during roll call. At approximately 1000 hours, MPO Dever observed a vehicle matching the description of the vehicle in the lookout. The 1983 Plymouth with faded gray paint and Michigan tags was located in the Breezeway Motel parking lot. MPO Dever notified the dispatchers of the location of the vehicle. As more officers responded to the area to assist, MPO Dever stayed out of sight but maintained visual observation of the vehicle. The arriving units established a perimeter and a plain clothes officer was sent in to verify the tag and confer with the desk clerk to locate a room that the car was registered to. While the officers on the scene were planning the arrest, the plain clothes officer radioed in that a subject was exiting from the target room. As the suspect reached his car he was met by MPO Dever and other officers. The arrest was quickly made without incident. The suspect in the case was formally charged with two counts of armed robbery and one count of grand larceny. The subject was also a suspect in other robbery cases in the metropolitan area.

Dispatcher of the Year

- Dispatcher Betty Powers and Dispatcher Brad Schuiteman were each awarded the Dispatcher of the Year Award for 2003. As a team Dispatchers Powers and Schuiteman work together in an outstanding manner. They routinely provide the best information possible to officers on the street and handle the incoming calls professionally, often assisting the citizen on the phone until the officer arrives. These actions were demonstrated in the next awards involving PFC. Poore and an armed individual at Wendys. These dispatchers routinely take on extra assignments to aid the Department. During times of bad weather they routinely come in early or stay over to make sure that someone is here to work in the communications center.

Employee Commendations Continued

- PFC. Daniel G. Poore received two Distinguished Action Awards. In the first case, PFC. Poore was assigned to investigate a vandalism that occurred at the ATM building of the Bank of America located at 10440 Main St. Persons unknown had destroyed a desk inside the building and had broken out an exterior window. PFC. Poore reasoned that the crime may have been recorded on the ATM security camera, so he contacted the security firm that handles the maintenance of the ATM area for the bank. The manager was able to obtain the film loop for the time period of the vandalism. The film showed one individual using the ATM while another person destroyed the desk and window. PFC. Poore was able to identify the user of the ATM and contacted the subject about the vandalism. Several days later the second subject came into the Police Department asking to speak to PFC. Poore. The second subject was identified as the one who committed the vandalism.
- In the second case, PFC. Poore was dispatched to the Wendys restaurant for a suspicious male that was armed with a hand gun. The caller was terrified that the suspect was going to begin shooting people inside the restaurant. PFC. Poore arrived on the scene very quickly and asked for more information on the suspect's location. The information from the caller was relayed through Dispatcher Schuiteman that the suspect was standing near a tree. In a matter of seconds PFC. Poore advised the Emergency Communications Center that he had located the individual and was standing by for more units. As PFC. Poore waited the individual became more agitated and refused to comply with PFC. Poore's instruction to lie down on the ground. The individual paced back and forth and at one time reached down into his waistband saying "its only a play gun...let me pull it out and show you." At one time PFC. Poore had cover behind his police cruiser which he quickly gave up because the individual had place himself directly between the officer and the restaurant. PFC. Poore placed himself in danger when he abandoned his cover to protect patrons of the restaurant in the event of an exchange of gunfire. The individual eventually complied with PFC. Poore's directions to lie down and was quickly taken into custody.

Employee Commendations Continued

- PFC. Bruggeman received a Distinguished Action Award for the way he handled a stranded motorist call. When PFC Bruggeman arrived on the scene he located an elderly frail gentleman. The man had driven from Manassas and couldn't return home because the roads had become snow covered. The elderly gentleman did not have cab fare or anyone that could come get him. PFC Bruggeman gave him enough money for cab fare and contacted a cab company to respond. The cab company could not give an ETA due to the weather, so PFC Bruggeman transported the individual to Police Headquarters to wait for the cab to arrive.
- Sergeant Pamila Nevlud, Dispatcher Elizabeth Dexter, Dispatcher Natalie Lawhead and PFC Daniel Grimm all received the Departments Distinguished Action Award for their efforts in handling a case in late December. Sgt. Nevlud and PFC Grimm were dispatched to a domestic dispute at the Anchorage hotel. Prior to the male subject leaving he had the young boy in the room retrieve the one and only Christmas present the boy had received and return it to the male subject before he left. Sgt. Nevlud and PFC Grimm felt sorry for the young boy and each gave the mother \$10.00 to purchase another pair of shoes. The events were still on the mind of Sgt. Nevlud, so during her off-duty time the following day she went out and purchased a few more gifts for the young boy. When Dispatchers Lawhead and Dexter heard this, they went out and purchased a few small gifts themselves. As the officers were delivering the gifts, an individual came out of an adjoining room and stated that he wished he had a tree for Christmas. Sgt. Nevlud found that Dispatcher Dexter had a tree she wasn't using. Dispatcher Dexter gave it to the gentleman so that he could have a tree for Christmas.
- MPO Leo Doebel received a Distinguished Action award for locating an individual that was wanted for abducting and assaulting his former girlfriend. These events unfolded at approximately 12:30 am on July 26. Later that morning during roll call for the next shift, a lookout was given about this incident. MPO Doebel remembered the name from prior contacts with the individual. Immediately after roll call MPO Doebel responded to the area where the individual tended to hang out. MPO Doebel located a vehicle which was occupied by a subject matching the description given in roll call. The subject turned out to be the wanted individual. The suspect was arrested and charged with an additional crime of carrying a concealed weapon.

Employee Commendations Continued

- Officer Elaina White, PFC Christopher Gil, MPO Jeffery Morrison, Officer Kyle Penman, Officer Michael Duncan and Lieutenant Michael Rizzo all received the Distinguished Action Award. On March 25, 2003 approximately 6:54 p.m. units were dispatched to Allfirst Bank located at 10254 Main St., for a reported robbery in progress. MPO Morrison was first on the scene and encountered a male subject holding the bank's outer doors shut. The male subject was a victim and stated that the subject that had tried to rob him was trapped in the bank. MPO Morrison had the victim move to a safe location. MPO Morrison and OFC White confronted the suspect. The suspect was instructed to show his hands and lie down on the floor. The suspect refused to comply and stated that he would shoot the officers, while moving his hand towards his waistband. While the officers had the suspect covered with their weapons, MPO Morrison instructed Officer White to pepper spray the individual. The suspect turned his head and advanced towards the officers. PFC Gil arrived on the scene and while MPO Morrison and OFC White still had the suspect covered, PFC Gil reached in and grabbed the suspect pulling him outside and down to the ground. The suspect continued to resist, but was quickly arrested with the help of other officers that had arrived on the scene. The suspect was charged with two counts of attempted robbery.
- Sergeant Pamila Nevlud, Officer Jeffery Green, Officer Rich Fossum, SGT Mathew Duckett, PFC Daniel Grimm, PFC Bruggeman and Lieutenant Donald Poore all received the Distinguished Action Award for actions taken during an arrest for larceny. Suburban Auto body had been repeatedly the target of larcenies from the business. While on routine patrol Lt. Poore noticed some an individual walking in the closed lot looking into cars. Lt. Poore advised the other members to respond to the area and assist in a perimeter and observations of the lot. Once a perimeter had been set, the Fairfax County Police Helicopter responded to the scene. The suspect attempted to flee but was quickly apprehended.